



# KALIPAY TODAY

A Newsletter of Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc. January-March 2020

VOLUME NO. 1



## Kalipay Holds Benefit Concert

On February 7, 2020, Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc. organized a benefit concert which featured the Diamond Soul Siren, Nina and 90's front man, Wency Cornejo. The concert, which was held at SMX Convention Center in Bacolod City, was the foundation's effort to help sustain its programs and services. The concert was also a collaboration of talents from local performers, Jai and Jun, Music and Arts Studio performers, Afterglow Choir Ministries and the Kalipay children. The main part of the show was when "Diamond Soul Siren" NINA belted out her popular songs "Someday," "Love Moves" and encore "Through the Fire". While, Wency Cornejo sang his songs " Habang May Buhay", "Hanggang", and "Mangarap Ka" sang together with Nina.

Everybody was shocked and moved when in the middle of his performance, Wency gave back his professional fee to a surprised and tearful Anna C. Balcells, Kalipay's Founder and President. Balcells, restated that "Horrible stories about kids you thought happened only in the movies, happens everywhere, especially in Negros."

Partner and supporter of Kalipay, Astrid Hocking, who manages Hearts and Hands Community Development flew from Australia to give full support for the show and said during her speech that coming over twice a year becomes an important part of her life and that the reason is Kalipay, a place to bring joy to children.

## Wish List

1. Eggs and Milk
2. Formula Milk
3. Meat, Fruits, and Vegetables
4. Rice
5. Medicines and Multivitamins
6. Toiletries
7. Underwear
8. Computers
9. Reference Material  
( Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, etc)
10. Emergency Lights
11. Fire Extinguishers
12. Sports Equipment  
(Volleyball, Badminton, Ping Pong, Basketball etc.)
13. Musical Instruments  
(Guitars, Drums, Electric Piano, Flute etc.)

### COVID-19 Seminar In RT With Resident Nurse



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### Kalipay Kids Make Face Masks



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## Kalipay Attends PCPC Meeting

Kalipay participated in the Provincial Council for the Protection of Children (PCPC) regular meeting on January 21, 2020 represented by Founder and President Anna C. Balcells and Communications Manager AJ Pelongco. The meeting was presided by Gov. Bong Lacson, who is the council's chairperson. Also present in the meeting were Board Members Juvy Pepello and Tinto Bascon. It was attended by different organizations that support early childhood care, development, capability enhancement to children and youth, school empowerment towards protection of school children, feeding programs, and responsible adolescence program, among others.



## COVID-19 Seminar in Recovered Treasures

Resident Nurse Johanna Daroy conducted a health seminar in our shelter on January 31, 2020 for our staff, children, and teachers regarding COVID-19 as a preventive measure to combat the pandemic. The seminar covered several topics such as: proper hygiene and hand washing, identifying cause and symptoms, mode of transmission, how to boost one's immune system, and who are of high risk.



## Fire Prevention Staff Training

Last January 24, 2020, Kalipay shelter Recovered Treasures staff had a training for fire prevention. The training was headed by Gerald Perez, Kalipay's maintenance staff.

Topics such as how to organize an evacuation, how to handle a fire extinguisher, and identify fire exits were covered. Kalipay's staff regularly undergoes training to improve their skills in order to provide the best environment for our children.



## The Little Children of the Philippines Visit Kalipay

The Little Children of the Philippines, a community based Christian organization from Dumaguete City, visited Kalipay last February 11, 2020. As a part of their Lakbay Aral, the organization visited Kalipay shelters Recovered Treasures in Bago City and Haven Home in Bacolod City as well as the main office in Villamonte. Kalipay and The Little Children of the Philippines hope to become partners in bringing joy to disadvantaged children in the near future.



## Jana Alayra Visits Kalipay

Christian artist Jana Alayra visited Recovered Treasures, a Kalipay Home, on January 29, 2020. She spent the afternoon getting acquainted with the staff and children.

Alayra, who provides and leads worship events for adults and children alike, topped off the visit by teaching the kids a worship song together which they greatly enjoyed performing.



## Vloggers Bring Joy to Kalipay

Mike Holaschke and Nelly Hrnac known on Youtube as Making it happen together with The Juicy Vlog, George Warrington and Lucy D' Agostino, and Ms. Solenn Heussaff launched merchandise under Merch By and donated their earnings to Kalipay Negrense Foundation Inc. last year and this January 2020. George and Lucy visited last December 2019 and posted a video, filming their experience what it means to them to help the foundation. Nelly and Mike also campaigned for Kalipay and expressed that the project is close to their hearts in their video on Youtube when their merch was launched.



## Kalipay Kids Make Face Masks

Our kids wanted to take part in contributing against the country's ongoing battle to combat the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in their own little way.

Last March 25, 2020, they started sewing face masks of different sizes to be distributed to those who can't afford to have one as a way to give back to the community that has supported Kalipay and our children through and through. This little project was made possible by Denise Go Yap and Hearts and Hands Community Development Australia headed by Kalipay Honorary Board Member Astrid Hocking by providing the pattern and sewing machines.



## Annual Trauma Informed Care Training

Here in Kalipay, we strive to provide the necessary care our children need considering their background with trauma. For the past few years, Astrid Hocking has been providing us the technical assistance and training including Trauma Informed Care case management and practices. Her latest workshop was last February 19, 2020. This has allowed our staff to respond accordingly to the actions of our children and to deal with them in a positive method where the children can comprehend as to why they were disciplined. Hocking was bestowed the title Honorary Board Member for her efforts last 2019.

## Nena Ortoll Inaugurates Kalipay's Newly Finished Covered Court

Rosario "Nena" Ortoll returned to Kalipay last February 16, 2020 to inaugurate Kalipay's newly finished covered court. Nena has been Kalipay's long time friend and partner whose love, dedication, and generosity has kept Kalipay afloat for many years.

Nena was hailed as Honorary Member of the Board last March 14, 2019 during her visit to Kalipay's shelter Recovered Treasures for her unwavering dedication in bringing joy to disadvantaged children.

It was during this visit that she noticed the children playing on the shabby basketball court which prompted her to ask how the children keep active if it is rainy season. Anna C. Balcells, Kalipay's Founder and President, then replied that the kids would be kept occupied with indoor activities until the rain would stop. It was this moment that enabled the conception of Kalipay's covered court.

The event was celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony headed by Anna C. Balcells and Nena Ortoll, several dance numbers from the kids and staff, as well as a basketball game to christen the covered court.



## Cristina Zobel de Ayala Returns to Visit Kalipay

Long time partner of Kalipay and former Board Member of Kalipay Spain, Cristina Zobel de Ayala and husband Ignacio Suarez de Puga Fontes visited the foundation last January 07, 2020.

The couple were accompanied by Board of Trustees Cookie Montenegro and John Gayoso along with Executive Director Mhel E. Sillador Jr. They first stopped by Recovered Treasures Home where the children and staff, some of which have met Cristina Zobel years prior, welcomed everyone with a song and dance number.

The children immediately recognized and remembered the guests. They spent a bit of time catching up with Cristina who showed the kids younger photos of themselves which she has kept over the years.

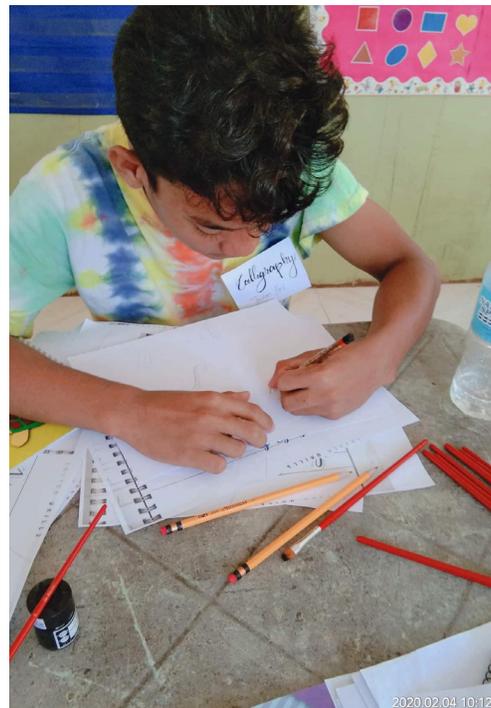
After visiting RT, they also stopped by Haven Home where they spent time playing and interacting with the little ones.



# Kids' Activities



The kids playing indoor hockey during activity time last February 19, 2020. The equipment was donated by Axel Fries, a past volunteer.



Kalipay kids attending several training workshops that allowed them to develop their practical skills last February 04, 2020. The workshop includes lessons on carpentry, rug weaving, motor repair and maintenance, cooking, and calligraphy.

# Volunteers From Around The World



## Volunteers Bring Joy to Kalipay

Our volunteers were given the chance to go home the moment the pandemic was announced. Instead of going back to their countries in the safety of their own homes and families, all five of them chose to stay in Kalipay as they expressed that they have witnessed how Kalipay needs the love and support of its volunteers more than ever.

Emilio, Victoria, Marc, Marta, and Kalipay Donor Juanma have done sets of activities with the children that have kept them busy and productive during the quarantine. The activities are composed of meditation, baking, sports, movie viewing, and the like. These has helped ease the tension and worry in our shelter, Recovered Treasures, and has allowed the kids to continue their way of life. The staff has also expressed how thankful they are to have the volunteers' helping hands.

## Kalipay Volunteers from January - March



Victoria Hermosilla & Emilio Botin, Spain



Dominique Arcenas, Philippines



Marc Llorens & Marta Giorgini, Spain

# An Appeal From The Founder

Dear Friends of Kalipay,

As of this writing, I am certain that you are in your homes, enjoying the presence of your loved ones. Perhaps this is the longest time you get to spend yourself with them, I guess for weeks already.

Friends, as I slowly get restless and anxious of what is happening right now around us, and I think you are, too, I deem NOW is the time for a full reflection... for everyone... for our neighbors... for ourselves... and for those who do not matter in the past, now, **THEY REALLY MATTER**. **EVERYBODY** matters at this point...and **IT HURTS**...It terribly hurts that we all become worthless. It hurts that every time, I put on the television or check the social media, all I can read is about this virus; **YES**, this **DAMN** virus **HURTS** us all!

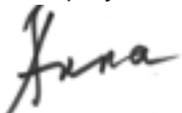
How we all long for that **DAY** again when everyone enjoys each other's company without the restrictions of anything; when we gather again in church, restaurants, malls, airports, beaches and we are **FREE** from fears and worries of this pandemic. How I long for that **DAY** again when I open my Facebook and read and see beautiful pictures of gatherings of families, friends, colleagues without the fear of COVID-19. And now, on this very trying time, together with the Filipino people and the whole world, **WE ARE ONE** in this fight against COVID-19 pandemic.

Months or even weeks ago, when the news about the dreaded COVID-19 came into full-blown, Kalipay had started its preparations. Our resident nurse has also been busy educating our staff and children with different health teachings to combat the virus; proper handwashing and personal hygiene, sanitizing the homes, and proper nutrition are some of the important lectures given by Nurse Johanna. We also purchased alcohols, antibacterial soaps, and mask good for our 100 rescued children. Then, people panicked and gathered supplies for their own families. And never did it cross our minds to hoard, not even thinking of the number of children who need to be fed; a **HUNDRED** of them... even when we solely rely from donations. However, because of the unfortunate mounting global crisis, we are currently facing difficulties in sustaining the basic needs of our 100 children. And as much as we don't want to be a burden, we are knocking on your kind hearts to help us. Any donations would mean a lot to each of our children. Please help us get through every day. **Please HELP US!**

With the recent call of the government for community quarantine, we submit without any objections. There are difficulties that we encountered but this is our selfless sacrifice for the good of everybody. In the meantime, we temporarily stop all outreach activities from devoted individuals, groups and companies who want to spend a day with our children. We also deem to stop accepting volunteers until such time things would slowly go back to where it has been.

Friends, **WE ARE ONE IN PRAYER!** I fervently, pray with you that **THIS, TOO, SHALL PASS** because we all know deeply that we have an omnipotent **GOD** greater than this pandemic. My wish, that after this turmoil, we will see each other again as we bring joy to disadvantaged children.

With a prayerful and a grateful heart, I remain!



**ANNA C. BALCELLS**  
*Founder and President*  
Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc.





**DONATE.**

**VOLUNTEER.**

**SHARE.**

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**HELP US RESCUE MORE CHILDREN!  
YOU MAY DONATE THROUGH:**

Account Name: **Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc.**

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Peso Account No: 00 0720 140 889

Swift Address: BNORPHMM

**UNIONBANK**

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Negros Occidental, Philippines

Peso Account No: 000 210021 214

Dollar Account No: 13 021 000 5089

Euro Account No: 13 021 000 5703

Swift Address: UBPHPHMM

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